



2ND REPLACEMENT CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UP TO 2035

DELIVERY AGREEMENT - REPORT OF CONSULTATION

INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with Regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended), the Council is required to prepare a Delivery Agreement (DA) setting out the timetable and community involvement scheme for the preparation of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 (2RLDP).
2. This Report summarises the public responses related to the Draft DA and includes officer recommendations for appropriate changes to the document as a result.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

3. The Draft DA was subject of a nine-week public consultation, from 25th January 2021 to 29th March 2021.
4. The Draft DA public consultation was publicised by the following means:
 - Leaflets were delivered to every house within Caerphilly county borough.
 - Letters or emails were sent directly to approximately 400 stakeholders, including Elected Members, Public Service Board partners, planning consultants, housebuilders and other organisations.
 - The Council's Communications Team sent three Gov Delivery email bulletins – 27,782 emails were opened and there were 681 unique opens of LDP consultation news stories.
 - The consultation was advertised by three posts on the Council's Facebook page with a reach of 36,569 people.
 - All Draft DA information, including an online representation form, was published on the Council's website. There were 9908 views on LDP pages, of which 864 clicked on the LDP consultation page.
5. Respondents were asked for their views on the Timetable for delivery of the 2RLDP and the Community Involvement Scheme, and for any other comments on the Draft DA.

SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AND COUNCIL RESPONSE

6. The Council received a total of **23** responses.

7. Of the representations received, 2 respondents completed the Draft DA Response form but made no comments in respect of the Draft DA. These respondents will be treated as though they have registered their interest in the 2RLDP process and will be added to the database accordingly.
8. A number of comments received related to land-use issues that will be considered later, as part of the 2RLDP process.
9. The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales lists a number of resources and tools to assist in ensuring that the 2RLDP aligns with the Well-being of Future Generations Act and contributes to the seven well-being goals and well-being objectives. These will all be considered and utilised throughout the 2RLDP process.
10. Newport City Council recognises that Caerphilly County Borough Council's 2RLDP is on a similar timescale to its own Replacement LDP. It notes that cross boundary work is already taking place between local authorities and welcomes the continuation of a joint approach to the evidence base.
11. The list of Consultation Bodies has been updated as a result of the consultation.
12. Typographical errors that have been identified have also been amended but these have not been recorded in the Report of Consultation.
13. A summary of the responses received, together with the officer response, is attached at Appendix 1.

MOVING FORWARD

14. This report of consultation will be considered by a full meeting of the Council on 1st June 2021.
15. Council approval of the final DA will be sought along with agreement to submit the DA to Welsh Government.
16. In accordance with the Development Plan Regulations, once approved by Council the DA must be formally submitted to Welsh Government (WG) for its approval. Once agreed, the DA commits the Council to producing the 2nd Replacement LDP according to the stated timescales and processes outlined within it.

APPENDIX 1 - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES RECEIVED

Issue	Summary of response received	Council response	Changes required
2RLDP	Support for the preparation of the 2RLDP.	The support is noted.	No amendment to the document required.
Draft Review Report	Reflecting points made in the Draft Review Report.	The Draft Review Report has been subject to its own consultation.	No amendment to the document required.
List of Evidence	Paragraph 1.18 contains a list of evidence used to formulate the 2RLDP. Missing from this list is landscape analysis and the importance of landscape considerations which should be added.	Paragraph 1.19 clarifies that the list is not a definitive list. However, the list includes Infrastructure Assessment, and this is to be amended to Green Infrastructure Assessment, which will include landscape analysis.	Amend the list within paragraph 1.18 to include Green Infrastructure Assessment.
Health and Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Well-being, mental health and general health should be protected. ○ Suffering and the risk of angst in our community as our facilities are slowly diminished. 	<p>The provisions of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations, 2004, require the Council to assess the significant effects that its plan could have on the environment. In addition, Section 62 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to carry out a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of its plan. As a matter of good practice, the SEA and SA processes have been combined into one iterative SEA/SA process. The SEA/SA process was an iterative part of the preparation process of the Adopted LDP and is reflected in the Plan's proposals and policies.</p> <p>The Council will continue to adopt the integrated SEA/SA process in preparing the 2RLDP. However, other legislation has introduced additional assessment requirements that should also be addressed as part of the plan preparation process, e.g. health impact assessment,</p>	No amendment to the document required.

		<p>equalities assessment. Consequently, the Council will undertake an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA), which combines the SEA/SA process with the other required assessments as part of the preparation of the revised plan. The ISA will ensure that the revised plan is internally consistent, with economic, environmental, cultural and social issues considered alongside other relevant matters. The appraisal process will run concurrently with the plan preparation process.</p> <p>Given that sustainable development is the core underlying principle of both the LDP and SEA, there are clear associations between the LDP and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFG Act). As a requirement of the Act a Local Well-being Plan must be produced. The Council published its LWBP in 2018 and it covers the period up to 2023. Both the WBFG Act and LWBP will be considered fully throughout the preparation of the 2RLDP and the Well-being Assessment will form part of the evidence base of the 2RLDP.</p>	
	<p>The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales lists a number of resources and tools to assist the LDP team to ensure that the 2RLDP aligns with the Well-being of Future Generations Act and helps contribute to the seven well-being goals and our well-being objectives.</p> <p>The first Future Generations Report, which sets out the Commissioner's assessment of where Wales is at the moment, a vision for the future and recommendations to help public bodies reach that vision. This includes a section on Planning and Placemaking, which contains a number of recommendations relevant to this exercise, including recommendations to:</p>	<p>The comments are noted. Resources will be utilised during 2RLDP process.</p>	<p>No amendment to the document required.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align Local Development Plans and well-being plans/well-being objectives. • Make use of the advice and review service of the Design Commission and of the Welsh Health Impact Assessment Unit for major development and design and revisions of Local Development Plans. • Change mindsets from consultation to involvement and make every effort to involve people in plan design. • Synchronise and align all their infrastructure plans. • Produce plain language explanation of their Local Development Plans and their planning documents and guidance. • Embracing the new presumption in Planning Policy Wales 10 paragraph 1.17 in favour of sustainable development in accordance with the development plan to ensure that social, economic, cultural and environmental issues are balanced and integrated. <p>The self-reflection feedback sent in 2019 contains advice about placemaking, future-fit housing and decarbonisation, which is relevant to this work.</p> <p>Lists other resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework for scrutiny as it can help ensure that this work considers all of the Act's elements - goals, objectives and ways of working. • The Journeys to the well-being goals as they might give inspiration and ideas. <p>Journey on Involvement, which will be useful for consultation and wider involvement exercise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important that LDP does not only address current needs but also considers future trends. a 3 Horizons Toolkit has been published together with Public Health Wales to help public bodies to think and plan for the long-term by keeping a clear vision and taking future trends into account. <p>Other useful planning and placemaking resources, such as the Design Commission's Placemaking Charter and</p>		
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	guidance, RTPI's Value of Planning tool, and the Creating Healthier Places guide by Public Health Wales and Natural Resources Wales.		
Timetable	Support for the Timetable	Comments noted.	No amendment to the document required.
	The effects of Covid-19 on the timetable	<p>The DA has been prepared during the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. While the timetable is challenging, it provides a realistic timeframe for preparation of the 2RLDP.</p> <p>The Council will adhere to the Government Regulations regarding COVID-19; this includes social distancing and seeking innovative methods to consult during this time. Should additional opportunities arise during the plan preparation process especially where restrictions continue to be lifted, the Council will endeavour to respond to these.</p> <p>The Council will monitor and regularly review progress of the 2RLDP against the requirements of the DA to ensure the timetable is being adhered to and the public engagement, as set out in the CIS, is being met.</p>	No amendment to the document required.
	Consultation period should be longer	<p>In respect of the level of consultation required, Paragraph 3.16 of the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3, 2020) states:</p> <p><i>Local Planning Authorities should consider the most appropriate level and form of involvement for their DA to suit the local context.</i></p> <p>Previous Draft DA consultations have been held for 6 weeks, however, and in response to Covid-19 and the latest restrictions, a nine-week</p>	No amendment to the document required.

		consultation was undertaken to allow more time for engagement.	
Consultation	Ruperra Castle Preservation Trust (RCPT) wishes to contribute towards the 2RLDP.	Comment is noted. RCPT will be added to list of consultees.	No amendment to the document required.
	Welcome the chance to take part.	Comment of support is noted.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Needs to be publicised more ○ Letters should be sent to every household 	<p>The comment is noted. However, the Draft DA public consultation was publicised widely by the following means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaflets were delivered to every house within Caerphilly county borough. • Letters or emails were sent directly to approximately 400 stakeholders, including Elected Members, Public Service Board partners, planning consultants, housebuilders and other organisations. • The Council's Communications Team sent three Gov Delivery email bulletins – 27,782 emails were opened and there were 681 unique opens of LDP consultation news stories. • The consultation was advertised by three posts on the Council's Facebook page with a reach of 36,569 people. • All Draft DA information, including an online representation form, was published on the Council's website. There were 9908 views on LDP pages, of which 864 clicked on the LDP consultation page. 	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Involving the general public in the appropriateness of decisions made has previously been limited. ○ Need to be considered and listened to. 	The CIS sets out how the Council proposes to proactively engage with and involve the local community and stakeholders in the preparation of the 2RLDP. It is essential when preparing the 2RLDP that the right people are involved at the	No amendment to the document required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Councillors need to be knocking doors and making people aware of developments. ○ Essential to engage with local community and be flexible when alternatives need to be made to plans. ○ Costs could be avoided if people are listened to, e.g. Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre. ○ Engagement gives a real chance to influence policy. ○ People of Blackwood feel devalued. ○ Blackwood's community will be allowed to have their say to help shape and influence a better Blackwood for future years to come, instead of it being transformed into endless estates with no facilities, no heart and no future. ○ There needs to be specific effort to consult communities on the amenity of public spaces. ○ Consult with landowners, e.g. NRW and Mountain Bike Clubs and work to formalise existing off road mountain bike trails throughout the county borough, with community engagement and management of trails. 	<p>right time to seek greater consensus and strengthen community involvement in the plan making process.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The document is lengthy. ○ The CIS is not prominent enough or user friendly. 	<p>It is accepted that the Draft DA is a lengthy document. However, the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 requires a number of complex matters to be included within the timetable and the CIS and therefore the document must be comprehensive.</p> <p>Every effort has been made to write the document in plain language and in a format that the residents of the county borough can understand. For future key stages, easy read versions of key documents will be produced.</p>	<p>No amendment to the document required.</p>

		A contact telephone number and email address were provided, and officers were available to assist if required.	
	Difficulty accessing/using online response form.	The online response form was designed and structured to capture the views of people on the timetable, the CIS and any other comments. If people were unwilling or unable to complete the survey online, other options were available to them – email and paper form. A contact telephone number and email address were also provided, and officers were available to assist if required.	No amendment to the document required.
	Need to consider petitions.	Petitions received during each public consultation stage will be recorded and reported.	No amendment to the document required.
	Any site notices need to be bigger and more noticeable.	Comment is noted. Site notices will be considered at future stages.	No amendment to the document required.
Community Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community/leisure facilities. 	The provision of Community and Leisure Facilities within the county borough will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Closure and sale of community/leisure facilities. 	The closure and sale of facilities is outside of the LDP process.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suffering and the risk of angst in our community as our facilities are slowly diminished. 	Land use, including community and leisure facilities will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Infrastructure needs to be appropriate, e.g. doctors' surgeries, schools. 	Other departments such as Education, and outside bodies such as Aneurin Bevan University Health Board will be engaged in plan preparation and their land use requirements will be reflected in the 2RLDP.	No amendment to the document required.
Open space/recreation space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need for green recreational space. ○ Open space should be protected. 	Potential land use and protection of land will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No green sites should be developed 	Potential land use and protection of land will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various housing estates proposed around Blackwood and many people have made objections but are not being listened to or considered How many homes proposed for blackwood? 	Housing provision within the county borough will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empty Homes Fund 	This is outside of the 2RLDP process.	No amendment to the document required.
Town Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern regarding Bargoed town centre and its vacancy rates. Plans for Bargoed Town Centre 	Retail policies for all Town Centres will be considered through the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Historic Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Underline the importance of the historic environment. Urges the Council to strengthen its commitment to protecting heritage assets. 	Issues relating to the historic environment will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Cycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growing community of mountain bikers in the area. Area draws in hundreds of mountain bikers each week. Formalise mountain bike trails. Benefits for physical and mental health and for communities and for the economy. 	Land use will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to consider cyclists. 	Active Travel will be considered as part of the 2RLDP preparation process.	No amendment to the document required.
Other	Planning application process and objection to decision made.	Some comments received relate to a recently approved planning application and are not related to the 2RLDP process.	No amendment to the document required.
	Newport City Council recognises that Caerphilly County Borough Council's 2RLDP is on a similar timescale to its own Replacement LDP. It notes that cross boundary work is already taking place between local authorities and welcomes the continuation of a joint approach to the evidence base.	Comments are noted. Cross boundary work will continue where possible throughout the 2RLDP process.	No amendment to the document required.

